

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Personal Finance

**1. Who has to take the state online Personal Finance test?**

*Students graduating in 2010 who are taking a course in which Personal Finance competencies are embedded or students who are attempting to test out must take the test. Districts that have a Personal Finance course may also administer the test to their students*

**2. How can students test out of Personal Finance?**

*Students may take the state Personal Finance test once per testing window. Students must score at least 90% for their district to award them credit.*

**3. In what grades may the state online Personal Finance test or a Personal Finance course be taken?**

*Grades 10-12.*

**4. Are students with IEPs required to take the state Personal Finance test if credit is embedded in another course? Are there accommodations?**

*Yes. Accommodations are listed in the Online Examiner's Manual.*

**5. Where does Personal Finance fit into the curriculum?**

*Personal Finance may be credited as a practical arts course, a social studies course or a stand-alone course.*

**6. Who may teach Personal Finance?**

*The school district should choose the most qualified person to teach the course. The instructor must have a valid Missouri teaching certificate.*

**7. How may Personal Finance be counted for credit?**

*It may be counted as one-half credit for practical arts or one-half credit for social studies*

**8. What resources are available from DESE for Personal Finance?**

*DESE, with the assistance of educators, has developed a list of Personal Finance competencies and a model curriculum. These can be accessed at: [http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/personal\\_finance.htm](http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/personal_finance.htm)*

**9. May districts use student scores on the online Personal Finance test as part of the student's grade?**

*Yes, this is determined by the district.*

**10. How quickly are the results of the online Personal Finance test given to the student and examiner?**

*Test results are generated instantly.*

**11. Who wrote the questions for the state online Personal Finance test?**

*Missouri teachers.*

**12. Are there state achievement levels for the online Personal Finance test?**

*No.*

**13. How are scores reported to the individual students?**

*They are reported percent correct in each of the four strands.*

**14. Can the test results be downloaded electronically by districts?**

*Yes.*

**15. What is the cost of the state online Personal Finance test?**

*The cost varies by size of district.*

<i>District Enrollment</i>	<i>Yearly Access Fee</i>
<i>1-200</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>201-400</i>	<i>\$200</i>
<i>401-800</i>	<i>\$300</i>
<i>801-2000</i>	<i>\$400</i>
<i>2001-8000+</i>	<i>\$500</i>

**16. What is the process for payment?**

*The Assessment Resource Center will bill your district when students enter the online testing program. Districts will be billed once per year.*

*Make all checks payable to:*

***Treasurer-State of Missouri***

*Mail to:*

*Jeri Lou Zimmerman*

*Assistant Director of Finance*

*DESE-Division of School Improvement*

*P.O. Box 480*

*Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480*

Additional questions may be submitted to Bill Gerling, assistant director of assessment, [Bill.Gerling@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Bill.Gerling@dese.mo.gov), (573) 751-0398.